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ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
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RAIL PIGGYBACK TRAFFIC SHOWS INCREASE OVER 1980

WASHINGTON, January 7, 1982 -- Piggyback traffic on Class I U.S. railroads in 1981 showed an increase over 1980 but trailed the record level of 1979, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Piggyback carloadings in 1981 totaled 1,703,973, up 2.6 percent from 1980, but 8.3 percent lower than 1979. The number of trailers and containers carried totaled 3,102,764, a 2.9 percent gain from the previous year, but a 5.4 percent decline from 1979.

TOFC/COFC loadings accounted for 7.9 percent of total rail carloadings in 1981 and remained second only to coal -- the traditional leader -- as a source of railroad traffic.

Piggyback traffic for the holiday week ended December 26 totaled 23,219 cars, 7.9 percent above the corresponding holiday week of 1980, and 42,525 trailers and containers, 11.9 percent higher than 1980.

The AAR also reported that all freight traffic on major railroads for the holiday week ended January 2 totaled 12.7 billion ton-miles, 11.4 percent below the corresponding week of 1981.

Total carloadings on major railroads for the January 2 week were 288,781, down 14.7 percent from the comparable holiday week of 1981, but were 13.7 percent higher than the preceding Christmas week. Compared with last year, loadings were down 12.2 percent in the East, 13.7 percent in the South, and 16.6 percent in the West. Loadings of coal were up 1,468 cars, or 1.6 percent from the corresponding week of 1981.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 1/2/82:

	Loadings in Week ended January 2, 1982		Change from Corresponding Week 1981			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	18,720	D	8,880	32.2	I	2,196	13.3
Other farm products	4,399	I	441	11.1	I	1,047	31.2
Metallic ores	18,841	D	7,969	29.7	I	3,107	19.7
Coal	93,265	I	1,468	1.6	I	13,398	16.8
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	5,670	D	1,786	24.0	I	1,389	32.4
Nonmetallic minerals	8,552	D	3,887	31.2	I	1,603	23.1
Grain mill products	10,289	D	1,920	15.7	I	932	10.0
Food and kindred products	11,009	D	1,790	14.0	I	965	9.6
Primary forest products	10,801	D	3,283	23.3	I	4,027	59.4
Lumber and wood products except furniture	3,876	D	1,052	21.3	D	7	0.2
Pulp, paper and allied products	11,929	D	4,802	28.7	D	326	2.7
Chemicals and allied products	22,052	D	5,096	18.8	I	4,576	26.2
Petroleum products	4,318	D	883	17.0	I	797	22.6
Stone, clay and glass products	8,358	D	3,525	29.7	I	1,469	21.3
Coke	4,486	D	1,547	25.6	I	293	7.0
Metals and products	9,736	D	4,423	31.2	I	1,953	25.1
Motor vehicles and equipment	4,578	I	548	13.6	D	3,444	42.9
Waste and scrap materials	5,599	D	2,891	34.1	I	684	13.9
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	5,445	D	212	3.7	D	420	7.2
All other carloads	26,724	I	1,892	7.6	I	553	2.1
LCL traffic	134	D	11	7.6	I	17	14.5
Total Cars Loaded	288,781	D	49,608	14.7	I	34,809	13.7
Corresponding week of 1981	338,542						

	1982	1981	% Change	
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):				
Week ended January 2	12.7	14.3	D	11.4

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